IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding pending claim(s):

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for registering a subscriber unit ~~with a home agent in~~ <u>upon initial use within</u> a cellular system, the method comprising:

~~storing~~ <u>initially programming</u> addresses for a plurality of home agents in the subscriber unit prior to ~~a first registration attempt~~ <u>an initial registration attempt with a primary home agent</u>, wherein the plurality of home agents includes ~~a primary home agent~~ <u>the primary home agent</u> and a plurality of secondary home agents;

attempting ~~the first registration~~ <u>the initial registration attempt</u> with the primary home agent;

<u>when the subscriber unit fails to achieve</u> ~~failing to achieve~~ registration <u>via the initial registration attempt</u> ~~with the primary home agent; the subscriber unit~~ <u>with the primary home agent of the plurality of home agents,</u> selecting a secondary home agent from the plurality of secondary home agents ~~in an attempt to balance load among the plurality of secondary home agents~~; and

attempting registration with ~~the secondary home agent~~ <u>the selected secondary home agent</u>.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further ~~comprises~~ <u>comprising</u>:

~~the subscriber unit~~ rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

attempting registration with the first secondary home agent; <u>and</u>

<u>when the subscriber unit fails to register</u> ~~failing to achieve registration with the first secondary home agent; and~~ with the first secondary home agent, attempting registration with the second secondary home agent.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the ~~subscriber unit~~ rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent comprises:

the subscriber unit generating a random number; and

the subscriber unit using the random number to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the ~~subscriber unit~~ rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent comprises:

the subscriber unit determining a current date; and

the subscriber unit using the current date to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the ~~subscriber unit~~ rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent comprises:

the subscriber unit determining a current time; and

the subscriber unit using the current time to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein <u>a service provider initially programs addresses for a plurality of home agents in the subscriber unit</u> ~~the plurality of addresses for the home agents stored in the subscriber unit is programmed by a service provider~~ prior to ~~delivering the~~ <u>delivery of the</u> subscriber unit to ~~its subscriber~~ <u>a subscriber</u>.

8.   (Cancelled)

9.   (Cancelled)

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10. (Currently Amended) A method for registering a subscriber unit ~~with a home agent in~~ upon initial use within a cellular system, the method comprising:

~~storing~~ initially programming addresses for a plurality of home agents in the subscriber unit prior to ~~a first registration attempt,~~ an initial registration attempt with a primary home agent, wherein the plurality of home agents includes ~~a primary home agent~~ the primary home agent and a plurality of secondary home agents;

attempting ~~the first registration with~~ the initial registration attempt with the primary home agent;

when the subscriber unit fails to achieve ~~failing to achieve~~ registration via the initial registration attempt with the primary home agent of the plurality of home agents, selecting a first secondary home agent from the plurality of secondary home agents based upon a rank ordering of the plurality of secondary home agents;~~with the primary home agent;~~

~~the subscriber unit rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent in an attempt to balance load among the plurality of secondary home agents;~~ and

attempting registration with ~~the first secondary home agent~~ the selected first secondary home agent.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

when the subscriber unit fails to achieve ~~failing to achieve~~ registration with the first secondary home agent, selecting a second secondary home agent; and

attempting registration with the second secondary home agent

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~subscriber unit rank ordering~~ the rank ordering of the plurality of secondary home agents ~~into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent~~ comprises:

the subscriber unit generating a random number; and

the subscriber unit using the random number to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~subscriber unit rank ordering~~ the rank ordering of the plurality of secondary home agents ~~into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent~~ comprises:

the subscriber unit determining a current date; and

the subscriber unit using the current date to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~subscriber unit rank ordering~~ the rank ordering of the plurality of secondary home agents ~~into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent~~ comprises:

the subscriber unit determining a current time; and

the subscriber unit using the current time to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

15.   (Currently Amended) A subscriber unit that operates within a cellular system, the subscriber unit comprising:

an antenna;

a radio frequency unit coupled to the antenna; and

at least one digital processor coupled to the radio frequency unit that executes software instructions causing the subscriber unit to:

~~store addresses~~ retrieve addresses, stored in the subscriber unit, for a plurality of home agents in the subscriber unit ~~prior to a first registration attempt~~ for an initial registration attempt with a primary home agent, wherein the stored addresses for the plurality of home agents includes a primary home agent and a plurality of secondary home agents which have been initially stored prior to the initial registration attempt;

attempt ~~the first registration~~ the initial registration with the primary home agent;

when failing to achieve registration ~~failing to achieve registration~~ with the primary home agent via the initial registration attempt, selecting ~~; select~~ a secondary home agent from the plurality of secondary home agents ~~in an attempt to balance load among the plurality of secondary home agents~~; and

attempt registration with ~~the secondary home agent~~ the selected secondary home agent.

16.   (Previously Presented) The subscriber unit of claim 15, wherein execution of the software instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:

rank order the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent.

17.   (Currently Amended) The subscriber unit of claim 16, wherein execution of the software instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:

attempt registration with the first secondary home agent; and

when failing to achieve registration ~~fail to achieve registration~~ with the first secondary home agent~~; and attempt~~ attempt registration with the second secondary home agent.

18.   (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 17, wherein in rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent, execution of the software instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:

generate a random number; and

use the random number to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

19.   (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 17, wherein in rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent, execution of the software instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:

determine a current date; and

use the current date to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

20.   (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 17, wherein in rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent, execution of the software instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:

determine a current time; and

use the current time to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

21.   (Currently Amended) The subscriber unit of claim 15, wherein a service provider, prior to delivery of the subscriber unit to a subscriber, stores the addresses for the plurality of home agents in the subscriber unit. ~~the plurality of addresses for the home agents stored in the subscriber unit is programmed by a service provider prior to delivering the subscriber unit to its subscriber.~~

22.   (Cancelled)

23.   (Cancelled)